



Smithsonian
Archives of American Art

Kenneth Miller Adams papers

Archives of American Art
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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives of American Art
Title:	Kenneth Miller Adams papers
Identifier:	AAA.adamkenn
Date:	1933-1938
Extent:	1 Microfilm reel (21 items on partial microfilm reel)
Creator:	Adams, Kenneth M. United States. Dept. of the Treasury. Section of Fine Arts Treasury Relief Art Project Public Works of Art Project
Language:	English .

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Lent for microfilming 1964 by Kenneth Miller Adams.

Related Materials

The Archives of American Art also holds the oral history interview with Kenneth M. Adams, 1964 April 23 conducted by Sylvia Glidden Loomis.

Available Formats

35mm microfilm reel NDA 1 available at Archives of American Art offices and through interlibrary loan.

Restrictions

The Archives of American art does not own the original papers. Use is limited to the microfilm copy.

Biographical / Historical

Kenneth Miller Adams (1897-1966) was a painter, muralist, and lithographer in New Mexico. Born in Topeka, Kansas, he studied at the Art Institute of Chicago and the Art Students League before serving in World War I. In 1924 he moved to Taos, New Mexico and joined the Taos Society of Artists. In 1933 he worked for the Treasury Relief Art Project and the Public Works of Art Project. He moved to Albuquerque in 1938 and later taught at the University of New Mexico until he retired in 1963. Adams was elected to the National Academy of Design in 1961.

Scope and Contents

This microfilm collection of the Kenneth Miller Adams papers consists of a letter, dated December 1933, from a Public Works of Art Project official on a routine matter, and a letter, dated May 1933, from Cecil H. Jones of the Treasury Relief Art Project in which Jones tells Adams he is trying to have him transferred to the WPA Federal Arts Project. Also included is correspondence, 1936-1937, with Edward Rowan and others of the Section of Fine Arts regarding Section mural competitions. This correspondence includes contracts for two murals painted by Adams – one in Goodland, Kansas (1936) depicting a scene with a figure and a buggy, and one in Deming, New Mexico (1937) entitled *Mountains and Yucca*. A photograph of each of the murals is also included.

Names and Subject Terms

This collection is indexed in the online catalog of the Smithsonian Institution under the following terms:

Subjects:

- Art and state -- Kansas
- Art and state -- New Mexico
- Federal aid to the arts -- Kansas
- Federal aid to the arts -- New Mexico
- Mural painting and decoration -- Kansas
- Mural painting and decoration -- New Mexico
- New Deal, 1933-1939 -- Kansas
- New Deal, 1933-1939 -- New Mexico

Names:

- Federal Art Project
- Jones, Cecil H.
- Rowan, Edward Beatty, 1898-1946

Occupations:

- Muralists -- Kansas
- Muralists -- New Mexico
- Painters -- Kansas
- Painters -- New Mexico

Geographic Names:

- United States -- Economic conditions -- 1918-1945
- United States -- Social conditions -- 1933-1945